

Zulema C. Smith, P.E.

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Career Highlights and Qualifications:

Retired with over 30 years of experience in the planning, design, construction, operation, maintenance, repair and environmental/regulatory compliance of public works project.

Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District)

- Title: Chief of Operations and Maintenance Division, June 2009 – December 2016
Responsible for the operation and maintenance of hundreds of miles of storm drains, channels, levees and dams, including 16 jurisdictional dams under the California State Department of Safety of Dams. Oversaw the preparation of plans and specification for the repairs of such projects as well as the inspection of the construction of the repairs, ensuring compliance with all appropriate regulatory permits, as well as all appropriate BMPs as required under Water Quality Management Plans and/or Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans. Responsible for the inspection and reporting of all Federal projects constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in partnership with the District and the coordination with USACE for required modification to such projects. Oversaw the review, plan check, approval and construction of all encroachment permits submitted to the District. Prepared and oversaw a yearly budget of nearly \$20 million and the administration of numerous contracts involving the daily operation, maintenance and repairs of all needed work and supplies at the District Headquarter. Supervised and managed over 80 employees and multiple consultants and ensured compliance with all safety rules and regulations including OSHA and DOT requirements. Oversaw the preparation of specifications, purchasing and ongoing servicing, maintenance and repairs of a fleet of over 200 vehicles and large construction equipment needed for the ongoing construction, maintenance and repairs of public works projects.
- Title: Engineering Project Manager – Federal Project Coordinator, March 2003 – June 2009
Responsible for the close coordination with the USACE for the planning, design and construction inspection of large projects involving flood control infrastructure, channelization, sheet pile construction, soil cement, dams, bridges, environmental restoration, and recreation components. Involved in the yearly funding meetings and presentations with congressional representatives for the appropriation of funds from the Office of Management and Budget. Involved in ensuring compliance with NEPA and well as CEQA for Federal projects and required mitigation for impacts to listed endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and jurisdictional areas were developed implemented and successfully met. Worked closely with consultant biologist, archeologist, paleontologist and various tribes on needed work and/or coordination for projects.
- Title: Senior Civil Engineer – Environmental/Regulatory Services, May 1995 – March 2003
Responsible for ensuring that all District public works projects where in compliance with CEQA, including the preparation of the Initial Checklist, Mitigated Negative Declarations and/or

Environmental Impact Report. Performed jurisdictional delineations and negotiated all permits from USACE and Regional Water Quality Board as well as Streambed Alteration Agreements with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Ensured mitigation requirements and success criteria for impacts to riparian areas, ESA, Waters of the U.S. and Waters of the State were successfully met. Responsible for the District's participation in the development of the Western Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan to ensure coverage for the critical maintenance of flood control infrastructure.

- Title: Associate Civil Engineer – Design and Planning Sections, July 1990 – May 1995
In the Design Section prepared the hydraulic analysis and was responsible for the design of reinforced concrete box structures, bridges, concrete and earthen channels, detention basins and storm drains. Prepared the design plans and traffic control plans, as well as the appropriate specification, quantities and construction cost estimate. Coordinated with various utilities for needed relocations. In the Planning Section prepared numerous hydrology studies, including rational tabling, synthetic unit hydrograph, and basin routing for the design of dams and basins. Prepared Master Drainage Plans (MDPs) with the preliminary design of flood control infrastructure involving hydrology and hydraulics for sizing and costing of multiple storm drains, levees, training dikes and basins as well as the preparation of Area Drainage Plans, which are the funding mechanisms for the MDPs.
- Title: Junior/Assistant Engineer – Planning Section and Development Review Section, July 1986 – July 1990
Prepared several hydrology and hydraulic analysis for watersheds as well as special studies involving floodplain analysis. Reviewed and prepared recommendations for proposed development projects involving Specific Plans with multiple development tracts, parcel maps, plot plans and conditional use cases to ensure that necessary flood control infrastructure was appropriately planned, designed and constructed. Represented the District in the weekly county Land Development Coordination meetings and presented recommendations to the applicants.

Education:

- Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering – General Structural Emphasis, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona - June 1986
- US Army Corps of Engineers Leadership Development Program – 2006
- The Government Affairs Institute at Georgetown University – 2006
- Riverside County Leadership Initiative Program - 2011

Memberships:

- America Society of Civil Engineers
- Association of Dam Safety Officials
- National Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Management Agencies
- Society of Women Engineers
- United Way Campaign Coordinator
- Assistant Scout Master for the Boy Scouts of America – Troop 90

Skills:

- Fully bilingual in Spanish
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to establish productive working relationships with all involved in ensuring a positive outcome and a successful project.